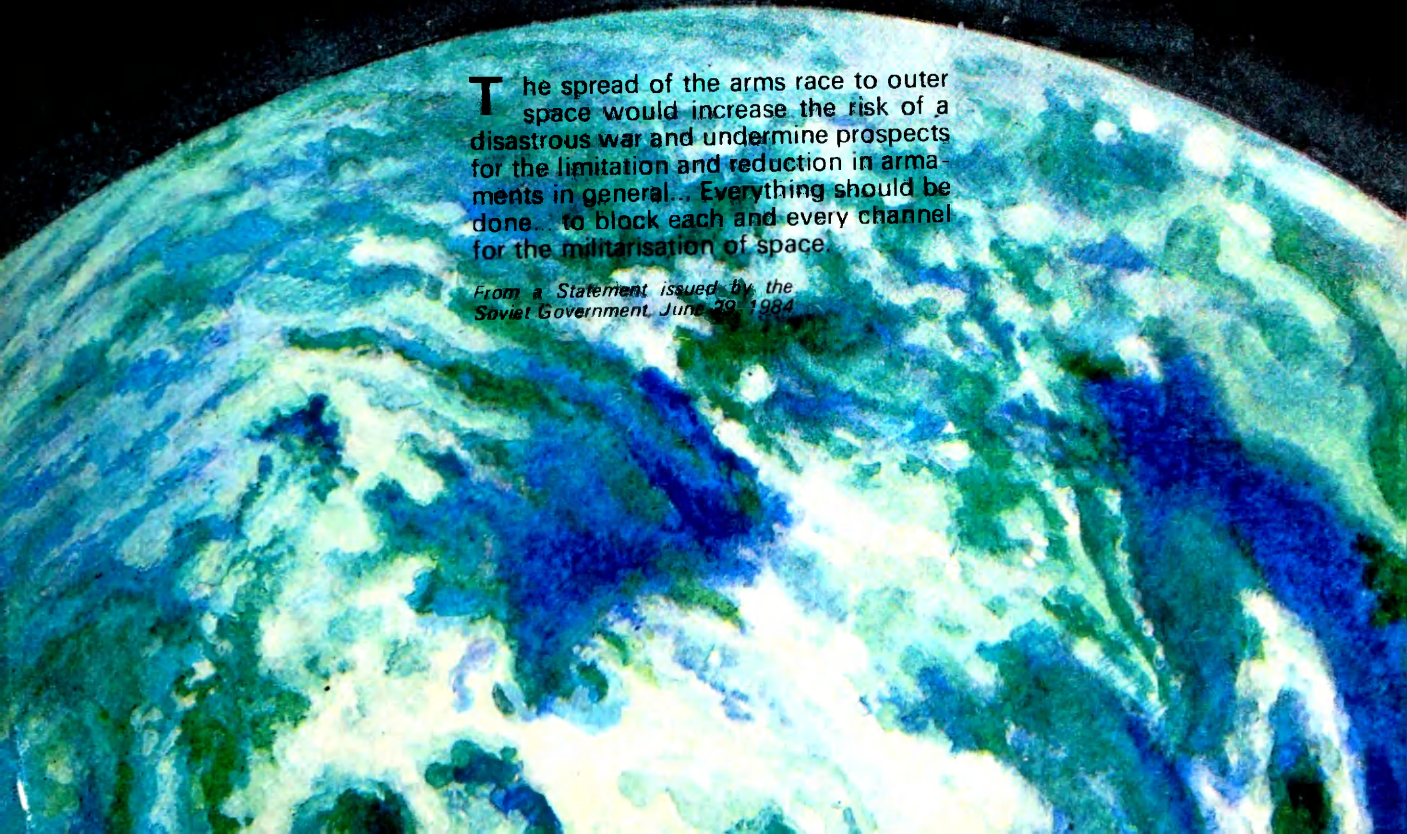


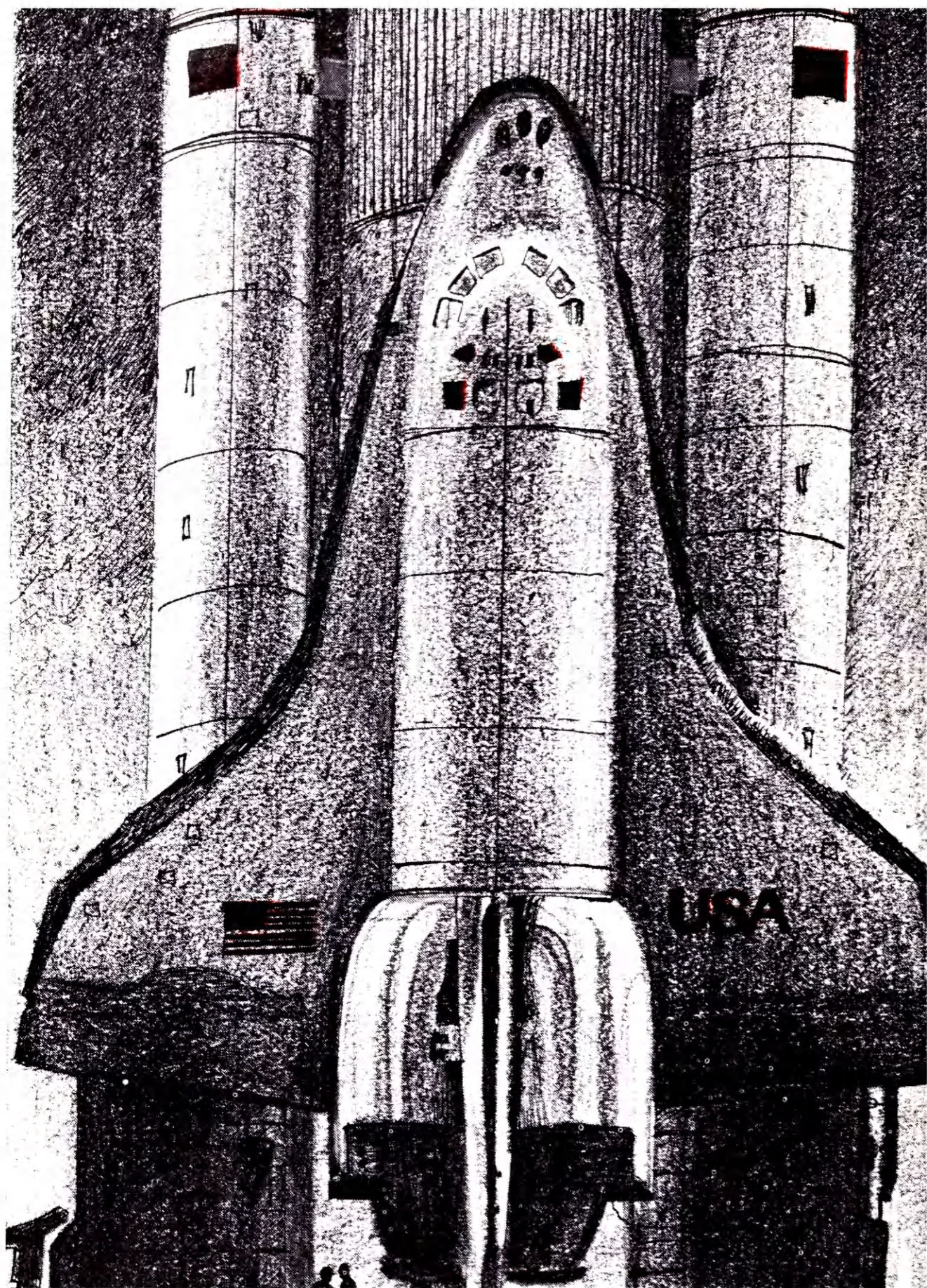
Danger from Outer Space

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The spread of the arms race to outer space would increase the risk of a disastrous war and undermine prospects for the limitation and reduction in armaments in general. Everything should be done... to block each and every channel for the militarisation of space.

*From a Statement issued by the
Soviet Government, June 29, 1984*





Militarisation of Outer Space

Less than thirty years have passed since October 4, 1957, when the first man-made satellite, known by its Russian name sputnik, left the Earth's atmosphere. Thirty years is less than the life-span of one generation, but during this time the words "outer space" have become very much part of our lives! Ours is the space age, an age full of events, some of them staggering.

Two years later the first sputnik was followed by luniks which transmitted to Earth pictures of the far side of the moon. Eighteen months after that, the first man, Yuri Gagarin, orbited the Earth. "We view victories in the exploration of outer space not only as achievements of the Soviet people but of all mankind," read a message from Moscow at the time. "We place our achievements and discoveries at the service of peace and the security of nations, not at the service of war." That was on April 12, 1961.

In another four years' time, in March 1965, Alexei Leonov was the first man to leave his orbiting spaceship and step into space. A little over four years later, in July 1969, Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin landed on the moon.

More expeditions followed—to Venus and Mars. Then there appeared space laboratories, space medicine and space weapons.

A great many defence satellites were launched. They can be divided into the following groups:

- satellites for the early detection of missile launchings;
- electronic reconnaissance and radio-jamming systems;
- military communications satellites;
- navigation systems which can be used for targeting ICBMs;
- weather satellites for use by all the branches of the armed forces;
- satellites for surveillance in the spectrum of infrared radiation capable of identifying objects as small as insignia on shoulder straps.

The United States permanently maintains more than 100 such spacecraft in orbit. Using the Shuttle spaceships the United States intends to double the number of such satellites in the current decade, alongside military orbital stations with a crew of 10-14 astronauts each.

Moreover, the Pentagon is developing its own "mini-shuttle". It will be launched from a high-altitude Boeing-747 for short missions such as to change the orbit of a satellite, reconnoitre deep in the rear of a potential enemy, etc.

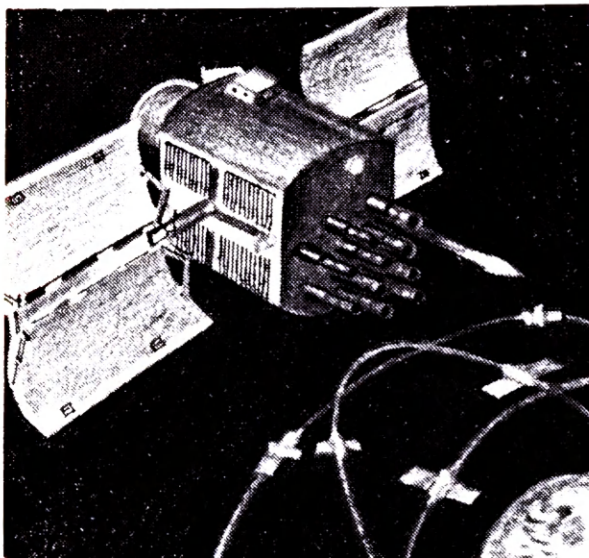
Advanced preparations have been made for combat operations from outer space, and there are plans for a direct conflict there.

Back in the 1960s, the United States developed a space-object interceptor called Saint. At that time it also stationed batteries of Nike-Zeus and Thor missiles on Kwajalein and Johnston atolls in the Marshall Islands

in the Pacific to shoot down space objects.

A particularly sharp turn towards the militarisation of outer space, however, was made by the Reagan Administration. No other president before him had ever ventured so brazenly and persistently to extend the arms race into outer space. Here are some of the steps that the present US Administration has taken in this direction.

July 1982. Reagan's special directive was published on US policy in outer space.



which provided for the development of US anti-satellites.

March 1983. Reagan made his "star wars" speech in which he sang the praises of US technological thought that, he claimed, enabled the United States to begin the development of space-based ballistic missile interceptors.

January 1984. Congress approved Presidential Directive 119 on intensified

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research into weapon systems for war in outer space.

The White House programs provide for extensive allocations. The last presidential directive earmarked 27,000 million dollars for research and development over the next five years. The Pentagon is rapidly claiming this money for itself. In 1984 alone, it has succeeded in receiving 14,000 million dollars for its military space programs. It has tested the first ASAT (anti-satellite system) model which is designed to

destroy targets in near-Earth orbit.

This is how the system operates: mounted on an F-15 combat aircraft is a modified short-range attack missile (SRAM) with an Altair-3 missile, which has long been in use in outer space as its second stage. This second stage has a velocity of over 30,000 mph which enables it to catch up with and intercept any satellite travelling at no more than 24,300 mph.

The Pentagon has already drawn up a list of targets to be destroyed by this weapon. This list includes the Soviet Salyut manned space station which has hosted ten international crews, including cosmonauts from France and India. Paul Warnke, who headed the US delegation at the disarmament talks with the USSR, like many other experts, thinks that unless urgent measures are taken now, a war in outer space may break out in the current decade.

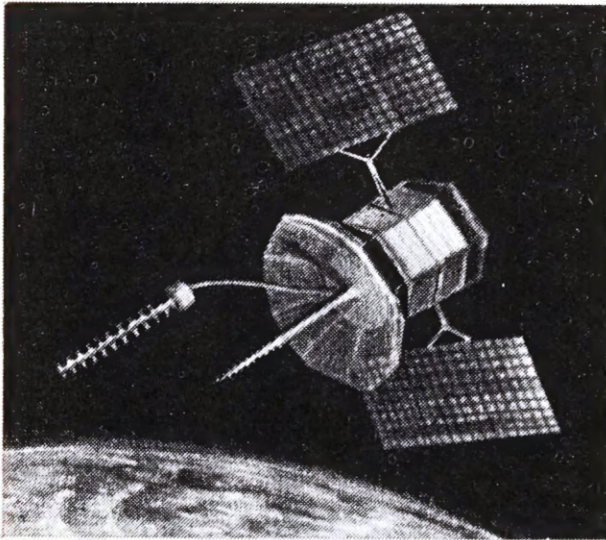
This, however, would not be only star wars, but wars that would utterly devastate our planet.

Facts like this one do not seem to disconcert the warlords of outer space in the least. On the contrary, they are trying to involve in this venture their allies in military blocs and groupings. Some of them, like Canada, have doubts and are demanding guarantees that joint launchings of spacecraft will not be used directly for military purposes. Others, like the Science and Technology Administration in Japan, willingly latch on to projects for building large military complexes in outer space. Still others come up with proposals of their own.



Forewarnings of a Thermonuclear Holocaust

The 6,000 years of the history of mankind have recorded information about 14,513 wars, which took 3,640 million lives—an average of 200,000 to 300,000 lives per war, if such an “average” can be worked out at all. The First World War took about 20



million lives and the Second World War 50 million.

This last figure includes the more than 200,000 civilians who died in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, although the way they died is suggestive of a war of the future. Hiroshima and Nagasaki are forewarnings of the nuclear holocaust which a new world war would bring. It could well start in outer space.

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A year after Yuri Gagarin's flight, in the summer of 1962, the United States carried out a nuclear test explosion in outer space. The Pentagon does not like to recall this episode, because the effect of the powerful radiation of charged particles from that explosion was far





more dangerous than expected. Nobody seemed to notice the flare at an altitude of 450 kilometres over the Pacific, but at that moment the electricity failed, communications broke down and signal systems were set off in Hawaii.

According to specialists, an explosion of this kind over Omaha in the heart of the United States would have put out of action all the telephone, radio and television communication systems, computers, radars and power lines in the whole of the United States.

That was over 20 years ago. Now hundreds of satellites of a dozen countries are orbiting the planet in the black void of outer space, and all of them are bound to Earth and are being watched very closely. These satellites are transmitting to Earth a continual stream of varied and valuable information ranging from the condition of field crops to the launching of ballistic missiles.

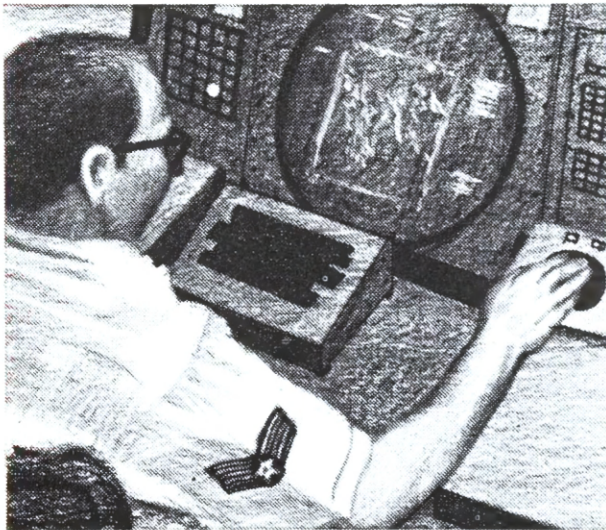
Each satellite is invaluable for the branch which it serves. A communications satellite, for instance, is the "nerve centre" of a complex network which covers whole continents and oceans. It enables key strategic defence and economic complexes to function.

War in outer space would instantaneously destroy this new and delicate Space-Earth infrastructure and detonate a global catastrophe.

As one journalist put it, a disruption of space communications might deprive the thermonuclear "tigers" of their eyes and ears, but it would leave them their rage, fangs and claws.

The Dangerous Illusions of ABM Defence

At first glance the strategy of space warfare is stimulated in the US by patriotic incentives: not to let a rival nation outstrip it in an important technological sphere or to create there a defence shield which enemy missiles and aircraft could not penetrate. But this is only at first glance.



In reality, military rivalry means an ever more exhausting and burdensome arms race that is becoming increasingly dangerous. The illusion has long since been dispelled that this is a sure way of bringing the enemy to his knees, the enemy with a powerful scientific, technological and economic potential. There are few people today who do not see that the arms race, especially in outer

space, involves more thousands of millions of dollars taken away from the poor, more jobs taken away from the unemployed, medicines and hospital treatment taken away from the old and the sick, and that the arms race leads to the closure of schools and to even greater illiteracy among children.

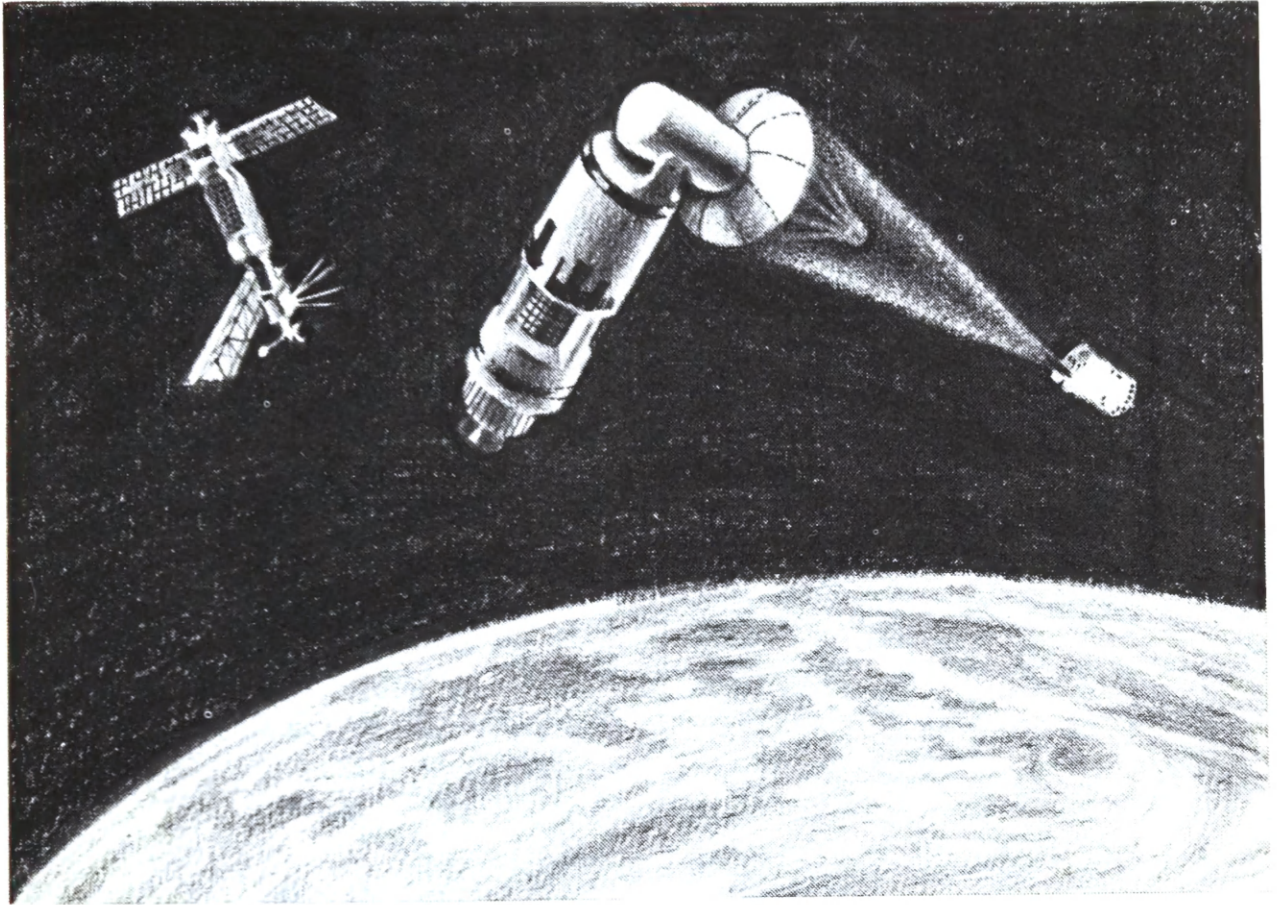
But defence is a different matter, because it suggests something as sacred as the security of the country. This idea of defence is being misused for the darkest designs of the greatest danger for mankind.

The top US military command has concluded that the existing triad of nuclear forces—land-based ICBMs, missile-carrying submarines and the strategic bomber force—cannot ensure victory in a war with the USSR. To start a war even with a surprise attack by all these forces simultaneously would be tantamount to suicide because of the inevitable and inescapable retaliatory strike. This is a well-established fact.

However, if it were possible to avert a retaliatory strike—weakened as it would be, but still mortal—and to set up a defence system that the missiles of retribution could not penetrate, then it would be possible to count on victory and to press the button of nuclear war. The solution, it is thought, is anti-ballistic missile (ABM) defence. For this purpose the Americans are planning to put into special orbits laser and particle-beam weapons. A laser beam or a particle beam are charged with enough energy to heat instantaneously, melt and

destroy in the airless void a flying missile or a missile guidance and control system. Work has begun on the development of such weapons and of aiming devices for them. It has already been announced in the US that a laser weapon was tested in 1983. This weapon installed on board a

from outer space for one's own country and its allies, for both military and civilian targets, as has been so much talked about in Washington, would in fact mean creating a shield under which any action could be taken. Herein lies the danger of this defence, the space



C-135 airplane destroyed five anti-aircraft missiles.

The logic of nuclear missile confrontation in the modern world is such, however, that this kind of defence in outer space creates a great temptation to launch into military adventures on Earth. A large-scale system of ABM defence which provides a reliable cover

version of which is now being intensively developed in the US.

This explains why in 1972 the Soviet Union and the United States signed the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems. In giving their mutual consent to ban the development of new ABM systems on both sides, the Soviet Union and the United States were

moved by a common desire to preserve life on Earth.

This was, and still is, an agreement of historic significance. It also serves as an instrument for curbing the nuclear arms race.

The Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems pointed out that there was military-strategic stability in the world. This treaty was directed at preventing any attempt to upset that stability. This means that it serves as a barrier to the military threat.

This, however, does not suit the present US Administration, which ignores the situation as it exists. Its aggressive militarist ambitions require more freedom of action and even stronger "defence".

The 1972 Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems was not only signed by the top leaders, but was also ratified in both states in accordance with the constitutional procedures of the Soviet Union and the United States. There is no expiry date for this treaty and it will never lose its legal force. It was to bypass the terms of this important accord that Washington needed its "defence" plea and lies about the "noble goals" of large-scale ABM defence.

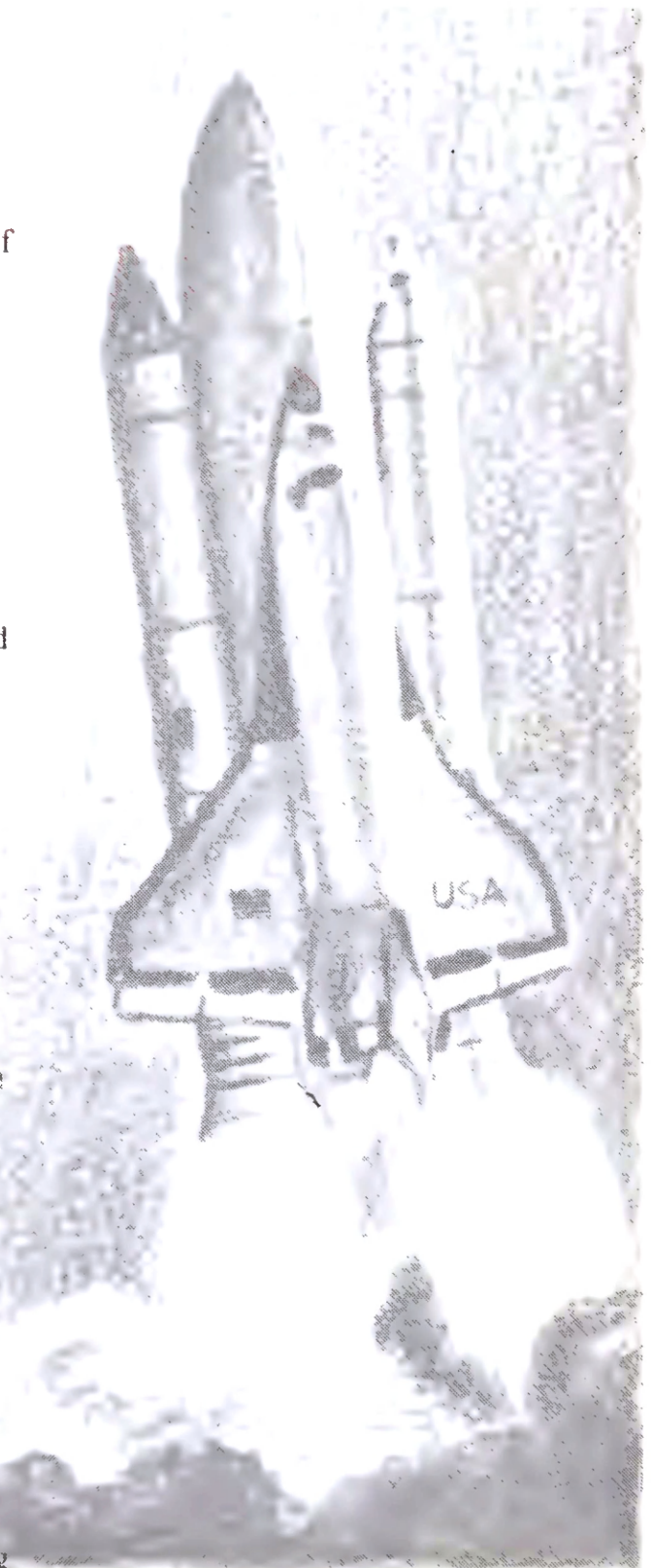
The White House used these "noble aims" to justify the above-mentioned program of urgent measures to create the space elements of the ABM defence (March, 1983). Moreover, Washington, as usual, has ignored the main factor, namely the inevitable and swift reaction of the other side. Moscow has declared

on several occasions that all efforts to achieve military superiority over the USSR are futile. The Soviet Union will never allow this to happen and it will never be caught unarmed in the face of any threat. We say that the nuclear powers should concentrate their efforts in quite a different direction, something that Konstantin Chernenko, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, spoke of again in April, 1984: "This is not the first year that the Soviet Union has been pressing for an agreement on preventing the arms race from spreading to outer space. We have been constantly raising this issue with leaders of the United States. We do this because we clearly realise the dire consequences that the militarisation of outer space entails." It is high time that Washington stopped inventing new ways of unleashing nuclear war in the hope of winning it. This is not only an irresponsible, but an insane and suicidal pursuit.

Threats Against the “Threat”

The preparations for the militarisation of outer space are being carried out by the US and NATO under the cover of the biggest lie of our century—the Soviet military threat. They use it as a pretext to inflate military budgets and increase taxation, escalate military production and cut social spending, invent ever new models of weapons to the joy of the arms manufacturers and restrict world trade, hold back cultural exchange, build new military bases, and heighten international tension.

In the 1950s the Americans and their Western allies were frightened by some doctored figures that were supposed to show how formidable the Soviet Air Force was, and this pretext was used to create a Strategic Air Force, the like of which had never been seen before, and build hundreds of bases for it scattered all over the world. In the 1960s the same false reference to the Soviet superiority was used to build up the nuclear missile potential of the United States. Now reference is made to the “Soviet threat” from outer space, although the falsity and absurdity of this invention have already been shown. Back in 1977, President Carter, on cue from the Pentagon, accused the Soviet Union of attempting to “blind” US early warning satellites by means of laser beams. Later the Pentagon admitted that the “blinding



attempts” had merely been flashed from electric welding operations on the large pipelines being built in the USSR. The myth of the “Soviet threat” is a tested way of justifying any militarist plans originating in the US. These plans are being continually generated by Washington’s official policy of seeking world leadership and domination. Some twenty years ago President Johnson said: “In effect, the British dominated the seas and led the world and we have dominated the air and have been the leader of the free world since we established that dominance. Now, the one who leads in space is going to have that position.”

The “Soviet threat” is nothing but a cover for efforts to raise a stockade of land-based, submarine-based and cruise missiles around the USSR. In the words of a Pentagon official, the aim of this stockade is to present “the Soviets a formidable threat from 360 degree axis”. It looks as if outer space is becoming the most likely place for the threats to counter the bogus “Soviet threat”. Scientific and technological progress promises the militarists truly unlimited possibilities here.

For a Calm Space

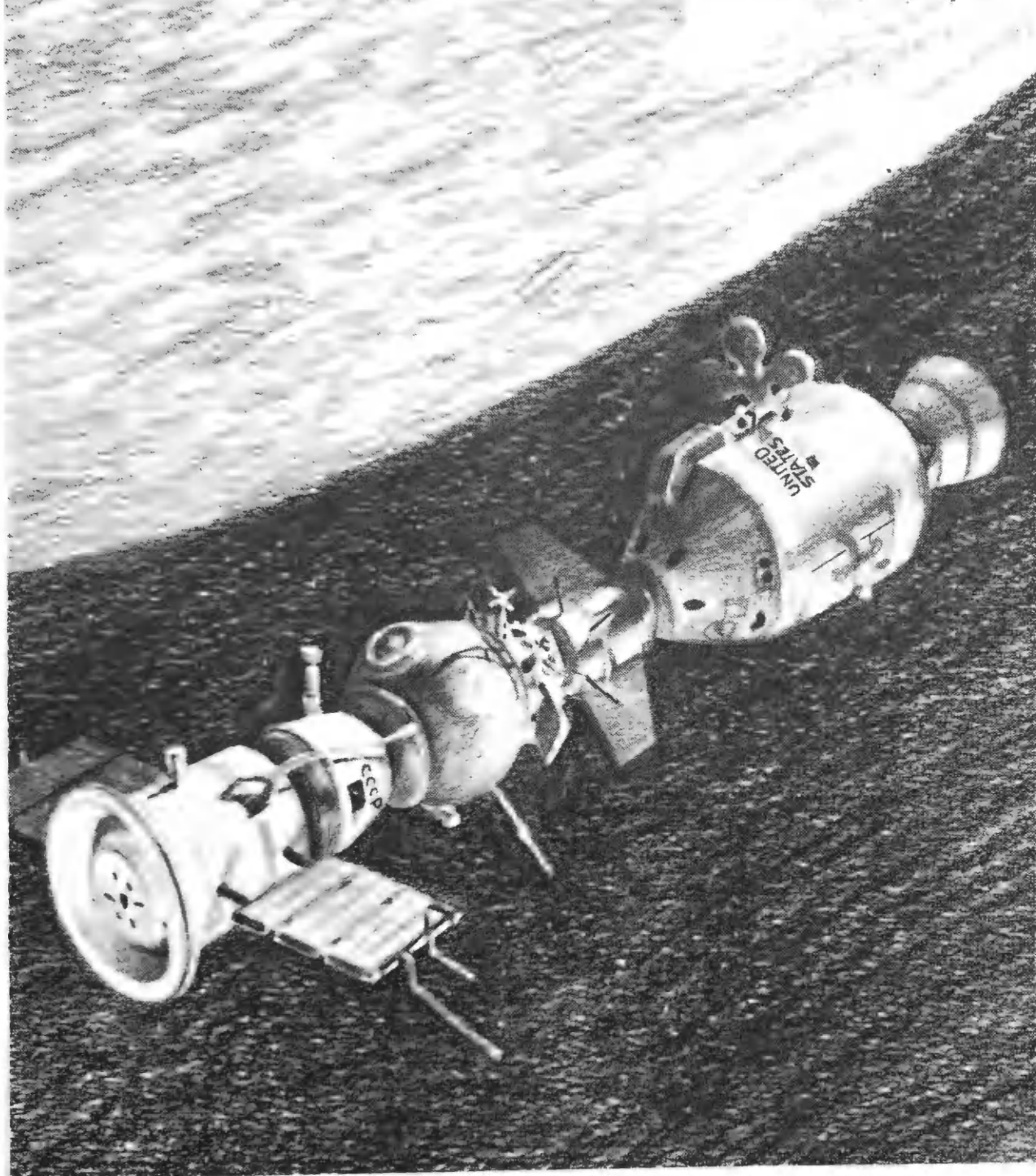
When, back in October 1957, the whole world watched the small star of the first Soviet sputnik serenely crossing the sky, scientists on all continents listened carefully to its quiet “beep-beep” signal. According to the Doppler shift, the radio signals from the sputnik had a lower pitch when it approached the receiving radio antennas, gradually becoming a high-pitched squeak as it moved further away. High-precision chronometers and radio frequency meters provided convincing proof that the sputnik was neither a legend, nor a trick. In near-Earth orbit was an apparatus with a reliable radio transmitter. Its signals could at any moment fix the location of the sputnik and predict its further movement.

Scientists tried to make reverse measurements, too. They established that, knowing the exact parameters of the stable orbit of the sputnik and the time, it was possible to fix the precise location of the observer on the Earth’s surface or in the ocean.

The Pentagon grabbed at the idea and produced a plan for a global system for determining the location of objects called NAVSTAR. The system, which should be completed by 1987, will consist of 18 satellites in constant radio contact with one another. With the help of the portable NAVSTAR radio receiver tuned in to the frequency of the satellites, it

will be possible to locate rapidly and automatically the position of the controller or navigator at any point on the Earth's surface with an accuracy of up to 50 feet (15 metres). This epoch-

making scientific and technological achievement will increase the accuracy of bombing and artillery fire, and will facilitate accurate helicopter landing in conditions of total lack of visibility and



combat operations in the most impassable jungle.

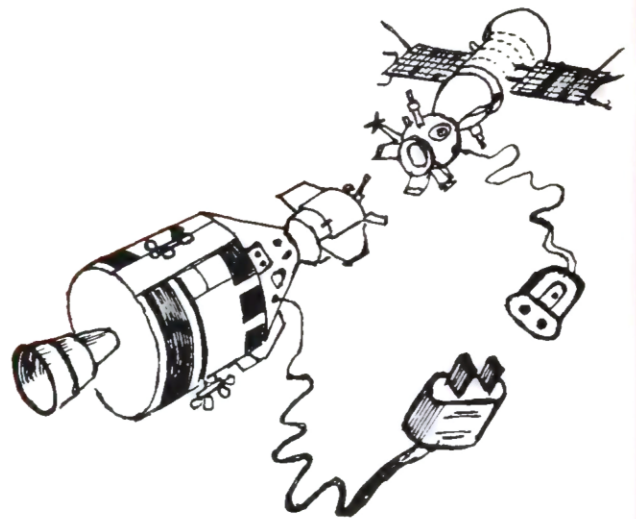
Those who misuse the fruits of scientific research and technological progress have no qualms about scuttling existing agreements which have for many years ensured the security of the USSR and the US, and of the whole world for that matter. There are three such agreements which protect peace in outer space: the 1963 Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Under Water, the 1967 Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, Including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, and the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems signed in 1972. The first two treaties are multilateral treaties and may be signed by all countries wishing to do so.

The US plans worked out in the spirit of "star wars" do not just scuttle these important acts of international law. They also give a push to the arms race in a new sphere and lead to the stockpiling of ever new systems of offensive weapons able to break through any defence system. That warning came in January 1984 from Averell Harriman, adviser to five US presidents, former US Ambassador to the USSR.

President Reagan ignored this warning. Six months earlier, in July 1983, more than 100 US Congressmen and 40 arms control experts gave a similar warning as they called upon their President to reach agreement with the USSR on a bilateral moratorium on the testing of anti-

ballistic missile systems in outer space. The White House remained deaf to this warning, too.

In March 1984 a number of Congressmen, scientists and public figures announced the formation of a coalition for the peaceful uses of outer space. Such influential public organisations as the Federation of American Scientists, Physicians for Social Responsibility, and Women Speak Out For Peace, are also represented in this coalition. Three months later the Movement to Save the Treaty on the Limitation of ABM Systems was founded through the efforts



of former US President Jimmy Carter, such leading personalities in previous administrations as Dean Rusk, Cyrus Vance, Edmund Muskie and Robert McNamara, Averell Harriman, a veteran of US diplomacy, who has already been mentioned, and others. The American people are greatly alarmed by the arms race in space started by the White House. What is the Administration's

response to this alarm? It has threatened to withdraw from the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

Finally, in June 1984 the Soviet Union persistently called on the United States to resume the Vienna talks on preventing the militarisation of outer space, including the matter of anti-satellite systems. It proposed the establishment of a moratorium on the testing and deployment of these weapons which would take effect the moment the talks started, so as to facilitate the concluding of this extremely important agreement.

What was the response from Washington? As if making fun of ordinary common sense it brought up the problem of nuclear missiles and attached it to this perfectly clear question. The result was that Washington pushed the whole question into an impasse which the Pentagon defends tooth and nail.

In the US the history of space exploration is mainly being written by the military. The Pentagon generals say that modern warfare, in addition to land, air and sea theatres, has moved into outer space. The Pentagon generals are putting their theories into practice and are now preparing for operations in outer space.

In 1958 the US passed a law on the establishment of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) which reaffirmed its commitment to peaceful objectives in its space research. However, the next act of Congress drew a line between the military and civilian competence of

NASA's space program which made this organisation dependent on the Pentagon. In the late 1960s and early 1970s, US legislators and the Pentagon continued to drift further away from their peaceful declarations and began to regard all orbital operations from the point of view of whether it was possible to create superweapons.

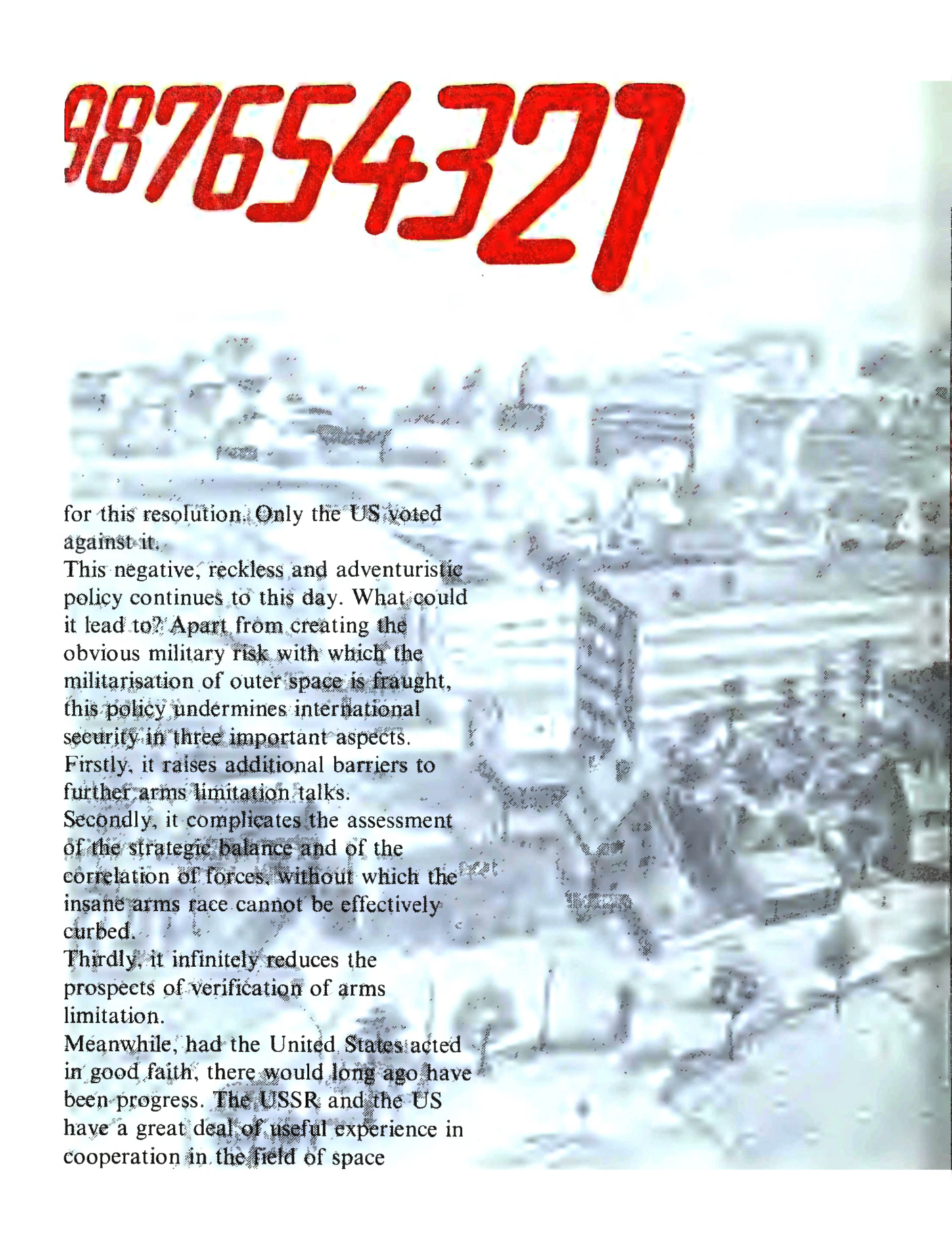
1978. The Soviet Union and the United States started talks on anti-satellite systems. A year later the US side broke off the talks.

1981. The UN General Assembly adopted a resolution on concluding a Treaty on the Prohibition of the Stationing of Weapons of Any Kind in Outer Space. What was the United States' response? It adopted its own decision on the emplacement of some elements of the ABM system in outer space.

August 1983. The Soviet Union took an important step by unilaterally committing itself not to be the first to put any anti-satellite weapons into outer space, provided other countries refrained from doing so. The United States, however, paid no heed to any such peaceful moves and started preparing a five-year program for the intensive development of space weapons.

November 1983. The UN General Assembly adopted another resolution on the prevention of an arms race in outer space, taking account of the Soviet Draft Treaty on the Prohibition of the Use of Force in Outer Space and from Outer Space with Regard to Earth. One hundred and twenty-one countries voted

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for this resolution. Only the US voted against it.

This negative, reckless and adventurist policy continues to this day. What could it lead to? Apart from creating the obvious military risk with which the militarisation of outer space is fraught, this policy undermines international security in three important aspects.

Firstly, it raises additional barriers to further arms limitation talks.

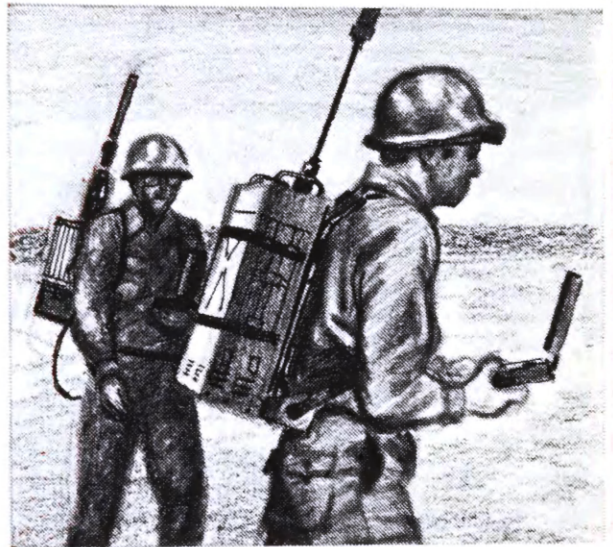
Secondly, it complicates the assessment of the strategic balance and of the correlation of forces, without which the insane arms race cannot be effectively curbed.

Thirdly, it infinitely reduces the prospects of verification of arms limitation.

Meanwhile, had the United States acted in good faith, there would long ago have been progress. The USSR and the US have a great deal of useful experience in cooperation in the field of space



exploration. On July 17, 1975, the spaceships of the two countries—Soyuz-19 and Apollo—docked over Europe. The Soviet cosmonauts Alexei Leonov and Valeri Kubasov shook hands with Tom Stafford, Donald Slayton and Vance Brand in orbit. That was the culmination of four years of hard work on the joint Soyuz-Apollo Test Project. The main conclusion to be drawn from the work done was that cooperation could and should be developed. The work of another international space system, COSPAS-SARSAT, in which the two leading space nations take part,



leads one to the same conclusion. This system is designed to locate people in distress all over the world. The Soviet satellite alone has helped save about a hundred lives.

As one of the experts working on the joint Soviet-American space program has put it, this useful cooperation must not be allowed to remain an anomaly in history.

Before Late

The first cosmonauts were fascinated by our small island in the universe. They realize that does man become vulnerable his needs protection of his residents.

In May 1962 cosmonaut Yuriy Gagarin and US astronaut John Glenn in scientific symposium in the United States. At the time they presented with the Dutch woodcut left, and Glenn were presented with the "Mr. Titov, made from a cosmonaut would be a friend who always walk together."

The Soviet Union is doing everything in its power to prevent the militarisation of outer space and the spread of the arms race to it, and to exclude the stationing of any weapons there. These preventive measures must be taken now, today. There is no time to lose. This may be achieved by reaching agreement on the non-use of force in outer space and from outer space against Earth. A draft of such a treaty has already been drawn up. It combines legal and political commitments by nations not to use force

in outer space with prevent the deployment of weapons in outer space, the objects, manned and spacecraft or any military purposes. It has been made to the agenda, place and negotiations on station of outer

The proposal to enjoy broad-based and community. The made a step to turn for the right before it is too late. It affirms that it is a common effort to to take the arms becoming a Secretary of the Committee, Chairman of

the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Konstantin Chernenko in his reply to an appeal of American scientists. "It is our conviction that a policy aimed at reliably protecting space from deployment of weapons should become an obligatory norm for the conduct of states and a universally recognized international obligation."



**THE FIRST COSMONAUT YURI GAGARIN
WAS FASCINATED BY THE BEAUTY
OF THE EARTH, OUR SMALL ISLAND
OF LIFE IN THE OCEAN
OF THE UNIVERSE. OBVIOUSLY,
ONLY FROM SPACE DOES MAN BEGIN FULLY
TO REALISE HOW VULNERABLE HIS
PLANET IS, AND HOW MUCH IT NEEDS
PROTECTION AND CARE BY ITS
RESIDENTS.**



Опасность из космоса
на английском языке

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